## Message Text

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**ACTION NEA-12** 

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 OMB-01 IO-14 AF-10 ACDA-19

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 AID-20

DRC-01 /178 W

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R 110552Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8989

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

**UNCLAS KUWAIT 0920** 

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR MU

SUBJ: OMANI CRITICISM OF GULF ARAB STATES AT ISLAMIC CONFERENCE IN LAHORE

- 1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT REUTER ARTICLE DATELINED LAHORE, FEB 22, AND ENTITLED "ZAWAWI CRITICIZES GULF NATIONS FOR ABETTING DISSIDENCY" IN KUWAIT TIMES, FEB. 23:
- 2. QTE: OMANI FOREIGN MINISTER QAIS ZAWAWI CRITICIZED ARAB COUNTRIES IN THE GULF FOR ALLEGEDLY AIDING THE CAUSE OF LEFT-WING REBELS IN DHOFAR PROVINCE AND INVITED HIS FELLOW ARABS TO REPLACE IRANIAN MILITARY AID TO HIS COUNTRY.

HE CLAIMED KUWAIT AND IRAQ WERE INDIRECTLY ABETTING AND AIDING THE CAUSE OF THE DHOFAR REBELS BY GIVING AID IN EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH TO SOUTH YEMEN WHICH, HE SAID, WAS DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN THE UPRISING ON THE SIDE OF THE MARXIST-INSPIRED REBELS. UNCLASSIFIED

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ZAWAWI, IN AN INTERVIEW WITH REUTER, STRONGLY REJECTED ARAB CRITICISM OF HIS COUNTRY FOR ACCEPTING IRAN'S OFFER TO SEND TROOPS TO HELP THE SULTAN'S FORCES AGAINST THE REBELLION -- LED BY THE POPULAR FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF OMAN AND THE ARAB GULF (PFLOAG).

THERE ARE COUNTRIES IN THE GULF, SUCH AS KUWAIT AND IRAQ, WHICH SUPPORT ADEN IN THE SPHERES OF EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH, HER ASSERTED.

'WE BELIEVE SUCH ACTION INDIRECTLY CONTRIBUTES TO SUSTAINING THE REBELLION.'

BUT THE OMANI FOREIGN MINISTER, WHO IS HERE FOR THE SECOND ISLAMIC SUMMIT WHICH OPENS TODAY, PAID WARM TRIBUTE TO EGYPT FOR ITS MORAL AID, 'WHICH IS ALL WE ARE SEEKING FROM OUR ARAB BROTHERS IN OUR JUST CAUSE.'

THE FOREIGN MINISTER -- WHO WAS FLANKED BY THE NEW OMANI AMBASSADOR TO PAKISTAN, SHABIB BIN TEYMOUR, A COUSIN OF THE RULER, AND SENIOR OMANI DELEGATION OFFICIALS -- HINTED THAT OMAN'S PATIENCE WAS RUNNING OUT.

'WE ARE NO LONGER WILLING TO KEEP QUIET ABOUT WHAT IS GOING ON AND WILL TELL EVERYONE WHERE TO GET OFF,' HE SAID.

ZAWAWI DECRIED ARAB DISMAY AT THE PRESENCE OF IRANIAN TROOPS IN OMAN. HE SAID, 'OUR INTERNAL AFFAIRS ARE OUR OWN, AND WE WILL NOT ACCEPT INTERFERENCE BY OTHERS IN THESE AFFAIRS, BECAUSE WE DO NOT INTERFERE IN THEIRS.'

'WE, IN FACT, BELIEVE THAT WE HAVE A RIGHT, AS ANY COUNTRY DOES, TO SEEK ASSISTANCE AND BACKING FROM IRAN IN ITS CAPACITY AS MOSLEM AND NEIGHBOURLY COUNTRY.'

'WE WELCOME HELP FROM ARAB COUNTRIES AND SAY: GO AHEAD AND GIVE US ASSISTANCE TO HELP US END THE REBELLION.'

THE FOREIGN MINISTER RECENTLY VISITED 'FRIENDLY AND BROTHERLY' NATIONS, INCLUDING EGYPT AND LIBYA, AND DISCUSSED UNCLASSIFIED

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THE 'PROBLEMS OF REBELLION IN THE REGION.'

'WE EXPECT FRIENDLY AND BROTHERLY COUNTRIES TO ASSUME A BIGGER ROLE TOWARDS BRINGING ABOUT UNDERSTANDING AND RECONCILIATION BETWEEN US AND OUR NEIGHBOURS WHO SUPPORT THIS REBELLION,' HE SAID.

'AND WHEN I SPEAK OF REBELLION AND COUNTRIES SUPPORTING

THIS REBELLION, I MEAN SOUTH YEMEN WHICH AIDS THE REBELS,' ZAWAWI ADDED.

THE OMANI MINISTER DESCRIBED THE FIGHTING IN DHOFAR AS A SMALL-SCALE UPRISING AND 'NOT A REVOLUTION'. HE HAD ARRIVED AT THIS CONVICTION AFTER VISITING THE TROUBLED AREA AND 'I KNOW WHAT I AM TALKING ABOUT.'

THE FOREIGN MINISTER REJECTED SUGGESTIONS THAT OMAN SHOULD FORMALLY REQUEST MILITARY AID FROM ARAB COUNTRIES TO COMBAT THE INSURGENCY. 'WE ARE NOT SUPPOSED TO SEEK THIS THING. IRAN GAVE THIS HELP AND WE HAVE NOT ASKED FOR IT. IRAN OFFERED TO HELP OUT,' HE ADDED.

ZAWAWI HAD NO OBJECTION TO A SUGGESTION PUT TO HIM IN THE INTERVIEW FOR AN ARAB LEAGUE-SPONSORED 'PEACE-KEEPING' FORCE TO BE STATIONED ALONG THE BORDER WITH SOUTH YEMEN. THE IDEA IS SIMILAR TO A SCHEME APPLIED DURING AN IRAQI-KUWAITI BORDER FLAREUP DURING THE REGIME OF THE LATE IRAQI PRESIDENT ABDEL-KARIM QASEM.

WE SAY THAT WE CAN DISCUSS THIS THING WITH THE ARAB LEAGUE. AND WE SAY THE DOOR IS OPEN. HE SAID.

THE OMANI MINISTER ALSO ELABORATED ON GOVERNMENT ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST THE PFLOAG AND IN THE FIELD OF RECONSTRUCTING. PARTICULARLY IN RECENT TIMES.

'WE HAVE MADE GREAT ADVANCES IN THE PAST SIX MONTHS. WE HAVE ALSO ACHIEVED A GREAT DEAL IN REBUILDING THE COUNTRY, AND CLOUDS OF DUST WE HAVE (IN OMAN) IS NOT KICKED UP BY CAMELS, BUT BY WORKSHOPS OF CONSTRUCTION AND PROGRESS,' HE CONCLUDED. UNQTE.

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